DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 378 977 IR 055 352

AUTHOR Miller, Margaret B.
TITLE We Don't Wear Aprons Anymore: An Annotated Bibliography of Working Mothers in Children's Literature.
INSTITUTION South Dakota Univ., Vermillion. Learning Resources Library.
PUB DATE 94
NOTE 26p.
PUB TYPE Reference Materials - Bibliographies (131)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Annotated Bibliographies; Books; *Childrens Literature; Dual Career Family; *Employed Women; Family Characteristics; Family Structure; Females; Literature Reviews; *Mothers; One Parent Family; *Parent Child Relationship

ABSTRACT

A review of children's literature found relatively few books for elementary school children depicting working mothers--an average of about eight per year out of the thousands published for children annually. The working mothers who were depicted were generally shown in a positive manner and were well-adjusted to employment. Children in the stories had positive attitudes about their mothers working, and had good relationships with them. This bibliography annotates 85 realistic books about working mothers; it provides a bibliographic citation, appropriate grade levels, a brief annotation, the mother's occupation, and the type of family configuration. (SLD)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 378 977

IR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

WE DON'T WEAR APRONS ANYMORE:

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF

WORKING MOTHERS IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

Dr. Margaret B. Miller
Learning Resources Library
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

Fall 1994

IR055352

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Margaret Miller, Ph. D.

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

WE DON'T WEAR APRONS ANYMORE: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WORKING MOTHERS IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

Currently in the United States 69 percent of all women from the ages of 18 to 64 are working. Of these, 16.8 million are working mothers and over half of them have children under the age of 6 (Statiscal Abstract of the United States, 1993). Given this preponderance of working mothers, I expected to find the depiction of working mothers in children's literature a common thing. After all, don't we want our sons and daughters to grow up thinking that it is okay to have a working mom? Surprisingly, there are not that many books depicting working mothers. After looking at the last fifteen years of children's literature, I found only 117 books with working mothers for children in the grades K-6. That averages out to be only about 8 books a year out of the thousands published for children each year.

On the positive side, most of the mothers were depicted in a positive manner and were well-adjusted to their employment. The children in the stories, on the whole, had positive attitudes about their mothers working and good relationships with their mothers. I found 35 different occupations and different family configurations including nuclear, dual income and single-parent.

The following bibliography annotates 85 of the books I

read about working mothers and includes the mother's occupation and the family configuration.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF REALISTIC FICTION CONTAINING WORKING MOTHERS 1976-1992

Adler, C.S. (1989). One Sister Too Many. New York: Macmillian. 162p. Grades 6-8.

Sequel to Spilt Sisters. Case (12 yrs) notices the new babysitter is behaving very oddly with her new three-month old sister Meredith. Case's Mom is a working mother, dealing with a new job and a colicky baby.
Mother's occupation: Assistant finance manager.
Dual income family.

Adler, C.S. (1986). Split Sisters. New York: Macmillian. 161 p. Grades 6-8.

Case's mother decides to try a job in New York and takes Case's older sister, Jen, with her. Case stays home with her father and tries to figure out a way to keep the family together. Mother's occupation: Business manager.
Dual income family.

Adler, C.S. (1992). Tuna Fish Thanksgiving. New York: Clarion Books. 165 p. Grades 6-9.

Thirteen-year-old Gilda's parents are getting a divorce, and she is trying to keep her family together. She thinks her mother is a workaholic and doesn't spend enough time with her younger brother and sister.

Mother's occupation: Dress shop owner. Dual income then single parent family.

Alda, A. (1982). Sonya's Mommy Works. New York: Julian Messner. 48 p. Grades K-2.

Basically a photo essay about Sonya's adjustment to her mother's employment. Sonya is worried that her mother will not be home for her birthday due to a business trip.

Mother's occupation: Public relations. Dual income family.

Ames, M. (1978). What Are Friends For? New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 145 p. Grades 4-6.

Eleven-year-old Amy finds out about making friends and adjusting to life without her father.

Mother's occupation: Writer--Perfume ads. Single-parent family.

Auch, M.J. (1988). Mom Is Dating Weird Wayne. New York: Holiday House. 146 p. Grades 4-6.

Jenna and her little brother Corey adjust to a working mother and a new home. Jenna objects to her mother's new boyfriend, a wacky weatherman.

Mother's occupation: Zit zapper in a school photo lab. Also artist. Single-parent family.

Bauer, C. F. (1981). My Mom Travels Alot. New York: Frederick Warne & Co. 43 p. Grades K-1.

A child points out the good and bad things about a mother's job that takes her away from home frequently.

Mother's occupation: Unknown probably business.

Dual income family.

Bauer, M.D. (1990). A Dream of Queens and Castles. New York: Clarion Books. 118 p. Grades 5-7.

Diana must go to England with her mother for a year. She dreams of meeting her name sake, Princess Diana. Mother and daughter become closer after a confrontation about work.

Mother's occupation: English professor. Single-parent family.

Bonsall, C. (1979). The Goodbye Summer. New York: Greenwillow Books. 164 p. Grades 4-6.

Allie hates endings and the goodbyes she must endure, because her mother runs a boarding house. One summer her friend, Ms. Lenya, teaches her that some things can't ever be lost.

Mother's occupation: Owns and runs boarding house.

Single-parent family.

Brillhart, J. (1992). Story hour--Starring Megan! Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman. 32 p. Grades K-1.

When Megan's mother, the librarian, cannot read to the children at a story hour, Megan takes over the job.

Mother's occupation: Children's librarian.

Dual income family.

Carrick, C. (1983). What a Wimp! New York: Clarion Books. 89 p. Grades 2-4.

Although his teacher, mother, and older brother are sympathetic, Barney knows he'll have to find his own way to deal with a bully.

Mother's occupation: Real Estate.

Single-parent family.

Clark, M. G. (1985). The Latchkey Mystery. New York: Dodd, Mead and Co. 128 p. Grades 4-7.

Eleven-year-old Minda, one of several latchkey children in her neighborhood, forms a group to watch for a burglar, who is robbing houses in the neighborhood. Adjustment to a new home and mother working.

Mother's occupation: Temporary secretary.

Single-parent family.

Cleary, B. (1983). Dear Mr. Henshaw. New York: William Morrow and Co. 133 p. Grades 4-8.

In his letters to his favorite author, and then his journal, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems coping with a new home, new school, his parent's divorce and his

mother's new job.

Mother's occupation: Caterer.

Single-parent family.

Cleary, B. (1979). Ramona and Her Mother. New York: William Morrow and Co. 207 p. Grades 3-5.

Ramona wishes her mother could stay home like she used to. Adjustment to school and being the youngest child.

Mother's occupation: Receptionist in doctor's office.

Dual income family.

Cleary, B. (1981). Ramona Quimby, Age 8. New York: William Morrow and Co. 190 p. Grades 3-5.

Ramona, now in the third grade, adjusts to her dad going to school to become a teacher.

Mother's occupation: Receptionist.

Nuclear family: Mother working, father in college.

Cleary, B. (1991). Strider. New York: Morrow Junior Books. 179 p. Grades 4-9.

Sequel to Dear Mr. Henshaw. Leigh finds a dog, Strider, who keeps him company while his mom works nights as a nurse.

Mother's occupation: Nurse.

Single-parent family.

Crew, L. (1991). Nekomah Creek. New York: Delacorte Press. 191 p. Grades 4-6.

Nine-year-old Robby loves his noisy and somewhat unconventional family, but unwanted attention from a counselor and a bully at school make him self-conscious

about his house husband dad.

Mother's occupation: Graphic artist.

Nuclear family: Mother works; Dad stays at home with babies.

Dexter, P.E. (1978). Arrow in the Wind. New York: Thomas Nelson, Inc. 160p. Grades 5-7.

As a result of his parents' separation and divorce, sixth-grader Benton Arrow grows more independent and forms a friendship with the school bully.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Drescher, J. (1981). I'm in Charge! Boston: Little Brown and Co. 32 p. Grades K-2.

A child "in charge" while both parents work attempts to overcome some difficult situations he creates.

Mother's occupation: Business

Dual income family.

Eisenberg, P.R. (1992). You're my Nikki. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers. 32 p. Grades K-2.

Nikki needs reassurance that her mother won't forget her when she goes to work.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Facklam, M. (1989). The Trouble With Mothers. New York: Clarion Books. 135 p. Grades 7-12.

What is a boy to do when his teacher-mother's historical novel is given as an example of the kind of "pornography" that should be banned from schools and libraries?

Mother's occupation: Teacher and writer.

Single-parent family.

Fisher, S.I. (1982). Wretched Robert. New York: Dodd, Mead and Co. 110 p. Grades 4-6.

Eleven-year-old Robert, tired of being considered nice, starts a campaign to become "wretched," and gain more attention from his working mother.

Mother's occupation: Real estate. Single-parent family.

Girion, B. (1980). Like Everybody Else. New York: Dell Publishing Co. 169 p. Grades 6-9.

Seventh grader, Samantha (Sam) Gold has a hard time adjusting to her mother's new life after she writes a spicy adult novel.

Mother's occupation: Writer. Dual income family.

Girion, B. (1979). Misty and me. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 139 p. Grades 4-6.

Eleven-year-old Kim tries to keep a puppy in secret, mind her younger brother and adjust to sixth grade when her mom goes back to work.

Mother's occupation: Assistant Personnel Manager.

Dual income family.

Greene, C.C. (1982). Al(exandra) the Great. New York: Viking Press. 133 p. Grades 4-6.

Her vest friend's family helps to cushion the blow when Al must sacrifice a summer visit to her father's farm in order to take care of her sick mother.

Mother's occupation: Sales clerk in department store. Single-parent family.

Greene, C.C. (1978). I and Sproggy. New York: Viking Press. 155 p. Grades 4-6.

The meeting between an eleven-year-old boy, Adam, and Sproggy, his English step-sister, who comes to New York City, is less than idyllic, but, time, events and Adam's mother help to change that.

Mother's occupation: Illustrator. Single-parent family.

Greenwald, S. (1979). All the Way to Wits End. Boston: Little, Brown and Co. 138 p. Grades 4-6.

Drucilla longs for a more modern family, but when her mother works and her family becomes more like everyone else, she decides tradition is a good thing.

Mother's occupation: Librarian. Dual income family.

Greenwald, S. (1977). The Secret in Miranda's Closet. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. 138 p. Grades 3-6.

An antique doll helps Miranda combat loneliness while her mother works.

Mother's occupation: Sociologist. Single-parent family.

Haas, D. (1984). Tink in a Tangle. Niles, IL: Albert Whitman & Co. 135 p. Grades 2-4.

An eight-year-old girl wonders if her red hair is the cause of all her problems, and tries to convince her hairdresser mother to dye her hair.

Mother's occupation: Hairdresser. Single-parent family.

Hahn, M.D. (1983). Daphne's Book. New York: Clarion Books. 177 p. Grades 6-10.

As author Jessica and artist Daphne collaborate on a picture book for a seventh-grade English class contest, they become close enough for Jessica to find out about Daphne's troubled home life.

Mother's occupation: Librarian. Single-parent family.

Harris, M.J. (1980). With a Wave of the Wand. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Books. 191 p. Grades 4-6.

Almost twelve-year-old Marlee tries to adjust to her parents' separation and even tries magic to get them back together.

Mother's occupation: Librarian. Single-parent family.

Hayes, S. (1982). Speaking of Snapdragons. New York: E.P. Dutton. 151 p. Grades 4-6.

During the summer while she is on her own, eleven-year-old Heather forms a friendship with an old, reclusive man who spends his days tending his garden.

Mother's occupation: Store owner. Single-parent family.

Hazen, B.S. (1992). Alone at Home. New York: Atheneum. 60 p. Grades 2-4.

Amy experiences some scary moments when she finally gets a chance to stay home alone after school.

Mother's occupation: Business. Dual income family.

Hazen, B.S. (1992). Mommy's Office. New York: Atheneum. unpaged. Grades K-2.

Emily accompanies her mother to the office for a day. She compares her work at school to Mommy's work at the office.

Mother's occupation: Advertising executive. Family type unknown.

Hazen, B.S. (1979). Tight times. New York: Puffin Books. 32 p. Grades K-2.

Because his family is going through "tight times", a little boy can't have the puppy he wishes for.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Dual income family.

Hesse, K. (1991). Wish on a Unicorn. New York: Henry Holt. 108 p. Grades 5-7.

Sixth grader Maggie feels burdened by her seven-year-old sister, Hannie, who is slightly brain-damaged and her brother while her mother is at work.

Mother's occupation: Factory worker. Single-parent family.

Hill, E.S. (1991). The Street Dancers. New York: Viking Press. 170 p. Grades 4-7.

Fitzi, the child of traveling entertainers, is envious when her show biz friend Pip retires form entertaining and lives a "normal life". She hopes her parents can get a steady job in a theater so she can do the same.

Mother's occupation: Actress and mime. Dual income family.

Holl, K.D. (1988). No Strings Attached. New York: Athenuem. 124 p. Grades 5-8.

June finds sharing a house with her mother and her foster grandfather requires a difficult adjustment to his forgetfulness and crabby remarks. She worries about her mother, who is recovering from a serious illness. Mother's occupation: Housekeeper. Single-parent family.

Holland, B. (1977). The Pony Problem. New York: E.P. Dutton. 122 p. Grades 4-8.

A young girl wins a pony in a contest, and then must find a way to keep him in a suburban neighborhood. Mother's occupation: Museum worker. Single-parent family.

Hopkins, L.B. (1977). Mama. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 108 p. Grades 4-7.

A mother struggles to feed, clothe, and protect her two sons using whatever resources she can muster, including stealing. Her oldest son worries how to help her get a better job and stop stealing. Mother's occupation: Store clerk. Single-parent family.

Hopkins, L.B. (1981). Mama and Her Boys. New York: Harper and Row. 149 p. Grades 4-8.

The sequel to Mama, Mark is relieved that his mother now holds a steady job at a laundry and no longer steals. He introduces his mother to his teacher at school and his family gains a father.

Mother's occupation: Laundry attendant and worker. Single-parent family.

Howard, E. (1986). Gillyflower. New York: Atheneum. 106 p. Grades 5-8.

Sexually abused by her father, while her mother is working, and fearing for her younger sister, Gilly looks for the courage to tell someone what is happening.

Mother's occupation: Nurse. Nuclear family, father unemployed.

Hurwitz, J. (1984). DeDe Takes Charge. New York: William Morrow and Co. 121 p. Grades 4-6.

A year after her father has left home, fifth-grader DeDe helps her mother cope with the realities of life after divorce.

Mother's occupation: Department store clerk. Single-parent family.

Jarrow, G. (1987). If Phyllis Were Here. New York: Avon Books. 132 p. Grades 4-6.

Libby must make a big adjustment in her life when her grandmother moves out and her mother starts working as a lawyer.

Mother's occupation: Lawyer. Dual income family.

Joosse, B.M. (19890. Pieces of the Picture. New York: J.B. Lippincott. 135 p. Grades 6-9.

Deeply resentful of having to move from Chicago to rural Wisconsin after her father's death, teenage Emily struggles

to understand her seemingly calm hard-working mother.
Mother's occupation: Inn-keeper. Single-parent family.

Kessler, E. and L. (1985). The Sweeneys from 9D. New York: Macmillian. 56 p. Grades 1-3.

The three Sweeney children face their first day at a new school and their first afternoon of taking care of themselves while their mother is at work.
Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Leeuwen, J.V. (1989). Dear Mom, You're Ruining My Life. New York: Puffin Books. 153 p. Grades 4-7.

Samantha's eleventh year includes losing her last baby teeth, towering over every boy in dance school, and being mortified by everything her mother does.
Mother's occupation: Writer. Dual income family.

Love, B. (1976). But What About Me? New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanich. 131 p. Grades 4-6.

Eleven year old Lucy has many adjustments when her mother becomes a "working lady."
Mother's occupation: Journalist. Dual income family.

Lowry, L. (1979). Anastasia Krupnik. New York: Bantam Books. 113 p. Grades 3-5.

Anastasia's 10th year has some good things like falling in love and really getting to know her grandmother and some bad things like finding out that her mother is pregnant.
Mother's occupation: Artist. Dual income family.

Lowry, L. (1985). Anastasia on Her Own. New York: Dell Publishing Co. 131 p. Grades 3-5.

Her family's new organized schedule for easy housekeeping makes 13 year old Anastasia confident that she can run the household while her mother is out of town, until she hits unexpected complications.

Mother's occupation: Artist. Dual income family.

Lowry, L. (1983). The One Hundredth Thing About Caroline. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 150 p. Grades 4-6.

When their mothers starts to date the mystery man on the fifth floor who has been instructed by his agent to "Eliminate the children by the first of may, eleven-year-old Caroline and her older brother figure they're targeted to be the victims.

Mother's occupation: Bank teller. Single-parent family.

MacLachlan, P. (1988). The Facts and Fictions of Minna Pratt. New York: HarperCollins. 136 p. Grades 4-6.

An eleven-year-old cellist learns about life from her eccentric family, her first boyfriend, and Mozart.

Mother's occupation: Writer. Dual income family.

Matthews, E. (1978). Getting Rid of Roger. Philadelphia: Westminister Press. 96 p. Grades 4-6.

A fourth-grade girl tries to think of ways to get rid of her troublesome younger brother.

Mother's occupation: Office worker. Single-parent family.

McCord, F. (1979). Turkeylegs Thompson. New York: Atheneum. 242 p. Grades 5-8.

Betty Ann's (Turkeylegs) childhood ends abruptly when her father abandons the family and her mother goes to work, leaving her responsible for her younger brother and sister.
Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

McHugh, E. (1983). Karen's Sister. New York: Greenwillow Books. 149 p. Grades 3-6.

Karen's mother adopts a second Korean child and finds a husband with three children of his own.
other's occupation: Veterinarian. Single-parent family.

Mearian, J.F. (1980). Someone Slightly Different. New York: Dial Press. 197 p. Grades 5-8.

A remarkable grandmother helps 12-year-old Marty resolve her feelings about her taxi driving mother and growing up without a father.
Mother's occupation: Taxi driver. Single-parent family.

Mills, B. (1976). Just the Beginning. New York: Harper and Row. 143 p. Grades 6-8.

Cathy's humiliation over her suspension from school and her mother's new job as a cleaning woman helps her come to a better understanding of her own worth and her relationships with others.
Mother's occupation: Cleaning lady. Dual income family.

Molnar, D.E. and Fenton, S. (1991). Who Will Pick Me Up When I Fall? Morton Grove,IL: Albert Whitman. 30 p. Grades K-2.

A young child with a working mother, who spends each day after school with someone else, need Mommy's reassurance of understanding and love.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Moore, E. (1980). Something To Count On. New York: E.P.Dutton. 103 p. Grades 4-6.

Ten-year-old Lorraine's behavior problems at school are aggravated by her parents divorce and her mother going back to work. Her understanding teacher helps her to adjust.

Mother's occupation: Store clerk. Single-parent family.

Newton, S. (1984). An End to Perfect. New York: Viking Kestrel. 212 p. Grades 5-7.

A twelve-year-old's perfect life changes when her best friend has serious family problems and her older brother leaves home to attend school in a different town.

Mother's occupation: Medical technician. Dual income family.

Orgel, D. (1985). My War with Mrs. Galloway. New York: Viking Kestrel. 75 p. Grades 2-4.

Rebecca, who is eight years old has an ongoing war with her babysitter, Mrs. Galloway. One day when Rebecca's cat has kittens, they come to an unexpected truce.

Mother's Occupation: Doctor. Single-parent family.

Porte, B.A. (1991). Fat Fanny, Beanpole Bertha and the Boys. New York: Orchard Books. 101 p. Grades 3-5.

This book contains two working mothers, both Fanny's mother and Bertha's mother work. When Bertha's father vanishes over the Bermuda Triangle, and Fanny's theater agent parents are secretly divorced, the girls decide to teach Fanny's triplet brothers to tap-dance to raise money. Mothers' occupations: Fanny's mother: Cook and Pizza maker. Bertha's mother: Talent scout.

Power, B. (1979). I Wish Laura's Mommy Was My Mommy. New York: J.B. Lippincott. 46 p. Grades 1-3.

Another book with two working mothers. Jenny thinks she prefers life in Laura's home to her own until changing circumstances help her to understand her mother better. Jenny's mommy goes to work and Laura's mommy becomes her childcare provider.

Mothers' occupations: Jenny's mother: Unknown. Laura's mother: Childcare provider. Dual income families.

Rose, D.L. (1991). Meredith's Mother Takes the Train. Niles,IL: Albert Whitman. 22 p. Grades K-2.

Though Meredith goes to child care and her mother goes to work, they think of each other during the day and look forward to their time together.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Sawyer,P. (1978). Mom's New Job. Chicago: Children's Press. 30 p. Grades K-2.

Her mother's decision to take a new job causes anxiety for a young girl.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Dual income family.

Schnick, E. (1980). Home Alone. New York: Dial Press. 56 p. Grades K-2.

A young boy spends his first afternoon alone at home while his mother is at work.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Shalev, C.M. (1988). My Father Always Embarrasses Me. Chicago: Wellington Publishers. 32 p. Grades K-2.

Mortimer is proud of his TV reporter mom, but he finds everything his father does embarrasses him. Until one day he enters a baking contest in Mortimer's class.

Mother's occupation: TV Reporter. Dual income family.

Shreve, S. (1982). Bad Dreams of a Good Girl. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 92 p. Grades 3-6.

The bad dreams Lotty has involve her mother returning to work and attending a new school. She adjusts to both with the love and support of her family.

Mother's occupation: Magazine editor. Dual income family.

Skurzynski, G. (1979). Martin by Himself. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 36 p. Grades K-2.

Martin doesn't like coming home to an empty house when

his mother goes back to work.

Mother's occupation: Doctor. Single-parent family.

Smith, A. (1981). Help! There's a Cat Washing in Here! New York: E.P. Dutton. 152 p. Grades 4-6.

Twelve-year-old Henry takes charge of the family for two weeks to allow his mother uninterrupted time to work on an art portfolio and find a job.

Mother's occupation: Artist. Single-parent family.

Smith, D.B. (1981). Last was Lloyd. New York: Viking Press. 124 p. Grades 4-6.

A friendless, overweight 12-year-old with an over protective mother begins to change the pattern of his life.

Mother's occupation: Factory worker (shrimp packer). Single-parent family.

Smith, L.B. (1979). My Mom Got a Job. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. 32 p. Grades K-2.

A young girl describes the changes in her life since her mother got a job.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Dual income family.

Smith, R.K. (1990). The Squeaky Wheel. New York: Delacorte Press. 182 p. Grades 4-6.

Moving to a new neighborhood following his parents' divorce, Mark has trouble making new friends and coping with his mother's new job and his father's absence.

Mother's occupation: Secretary. Single-parent family.

Springer, N. (1988). Not on a White Horse. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 182 p. Grades 4-6.

From the day twelve-year-old Rhiannon spots a lost white Arabian gelding in the woods near her small Pennsylvania mining town, her life finds a focus as she learns to deal with family problems.

Mother's occupation: Factory worker and store clerk. Mother working, father unemployed.

Stanek, M. (1986). My Mom Can't Read. Niles, IL: Albert Whitman. 32 p. Grades K-3.

When Tina asks her mother for help in first-grade reading, she discovers to her shock that her mother can't read. A concerned teacher helps them find tutors and they both learn how to read.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Single-parent family.

Stanley, C. (1991). The Latchkey Kids. New York: Scholastic Books. 123 p. Grades 4-6.

Tory and her friends start a club for latchkey kids to convince Tory's mother she can be home after school alone.

Mother's occupation: Dentist. Single-parent family.

Stecher, B.M. and Kandell, A. (1981). Daddy and Ben Together. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard. 29 p. Grades K-2.

Ben and Daddy fend for themselves while Mommy is on a business trip.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Dual income family.

Tapp, K.K. (1986). Smoke from the Chimney. New York: Atheneum. 169 p. Grades 4-6.

Erin relates the events of the summer when she and her friend, Heather, discover the "real" Tarzan and she comes increasingly aware of the family problems caused by her father's drinking.

Mother's occupation: Secretary. Mother working, father unemployed.

Terris, S. (1986). The Latchkey Kids. New York: Farrar, Straus, & Giroux. 167 p. Grades 4-6.

Eleven-year-old Callie tries to cope with her new responsibilities when the family's changed circumstances force them to move to a new San Francisco neighborhood and leave her in charge of her younger brother.

Mother's occupation: Works in a bank. Dual income family.

Tolan, S.S. (1983). The Great Skinner Strike. New York: Macmillan. 112 p. Grades 6-9.

When fourteen-year-old Jenny Skinner's mother goes on strike for better working conditions in the home, and as a result polarizes much of their community, Jenny, her three younger siblings, and her father come to some surprising conclusions.

Mother's Occupation: Librarian. Dual income family.

Tolan, S.S. (1983). A Time to Fly Free. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 165 p. Grades 4-6.

Ten-year-old Josh, who finds his private school

unbearable, joins forces with an elderly man in tending injured birds.

Mother's occupation: Artist. Dual income family.

Watson, P. (1977). Days with Daddy. New York: Prentice-Hall. 32 p. Grades 1-3.

A young boy and his sister adjust to spending more time with Dad when he decides to return to school and Mom returns to work.

Mother's occupation: Unknown. Mother works, father student.

Williams, B. (1982). Mitzi and the Terrible Tyrannosaurus Rex. New York: Dutton. 102 p. Grades 3-6.

Mitzi isn't sure she wants her mother to marry Walter, whose younger son is a three-year-old genius who thinks he is a dinosaur.

Mother's occupation: College professor and anthropologist. Single-parent family.

Williams, V. B. (1982). A Chair for My Mother. New York: Greenwillow Bks. 32 p. Grades K-2. CALDECOTT HONOR BK

A child, her waitress mother, and her grandmother save dimes to buy a comfortable armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.

Mother's occupation: Waitress. Single-parent family.

Sources:

Chief of the Bureau of Statistics. (1993). Statistical Abstract of the United States. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Dreyer, S.S. (1981). The bookfinder: A guide to children's literature about the needs and problems of youth aged 2-15.2-15. Volume 2, Annotations of books published 1975 through 1978. Circle Pines, MN: American Guidance Service.

Dreyer, S. S. (1985). The bookfinder: when kids need books Annotations of books published 1979 through 1982. Circle Pines, MN: American Guidance.

Dreyer, S. S. (1989). The bookfinder 4: When kids need books. Annotations of books published 1983 through 1986. Circle Pines, MN: American Guidance Service.

Horner, C.T. (1988). The single-parent family in children's books: An annotated bibliography. Metuchen, NJ: The Scarecrow Press, Inc.

Isaacson, R.H. and Hillegas, F.E. and Yaakov, J. (Eds.). (1986). Children's Catalog. (15th ed.). New York: H.W. Wilson Company.

Price, A. and Yaakov, J. (Eds.). (1992). Children's catalog:1992 supplement to the sixteenth edition. New York: H.W. Wilson.

Price, A. and Yaakov, J. (Eds.). (1993). Children's catalog: 1993 supplement to the sixteenth edition. New York: H.W. Wilson.

Van Orden, P. (Ed.). (1977). The elementary school library collection. A guide to books and other media. (11th ed.). Newark, NJ: The Bro-Dart Foundation.

Winkel, L. (Ed.). (1979). The elementary school library collection. A guide to books and other media. (12th ed.). Newark, NJ: The Brodart Foundation.

Winkel, L. (Ed.). (1982). The elementary school library collection. A guide to books and other media. (13th ed.). Newark, NJ: The Bro-Dart Foundation.

Winkel, L. (ED.). (1984), (1986), (1988). The elementary school library collection. A guide to books and other media. (14th, 15th and 16th eds.). Williamsport, PA: Brodart Company.

Yaakov, J. and Price, A. (1991). Children's catalog. (16th ed.). New York: H.W. Wilson.